

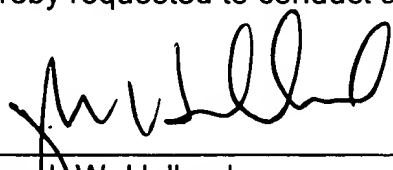
22 one or more screws including a longitudinal axis oriented along a plane substantially
23 parallel to a longitudinal axis of the a leg of the tensioned blade extending across
24 the aperture, for adjusting a distance between the first set of returns and the second
25 set of returns and tensioning the tensioned blade along a plane substantially parallel
26 to the longitudinal axis of each of the one or more screws.

1 9. (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 8 wherein the first set
2 of returns and the second set of returns each comprise a height substantially equal
3 to the width of the tensioned blade for transferring a substantially equal force across
4 the width of the tensioned blade.

1 10. (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 8 wherein the first set
2 of returns and the second set of returns each further comprise a bearing face lying
3 in a plane substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the leg of the
4 tensioned blade extending across an aperture formed through the cutting head_for
5 imparting a substantially equally tensive force across the width of the cutting
6 member.

REMARKS

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the same. If the Examiner is of a differing opinion he/she is hereby requested to conduct a telephonic interview with the undersigned attorney.



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EXAMINER: C. D xter

VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES
MADE IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 21, 2002

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 - 10 have been amended as follows (deletions are enclosed in [] and additions are underlines):

1 1. (Third Amendment) A cutting head assembly comprising:
2 a cutting head including [a first set of returns and a second set of returns, the
3 first set of returns adjustably opposing the second set of returns] a first head
4 member including a first set of returns, the first head member adjustably connected
5 to a second head member including a second set of returns;
6 a cutting member [formed of a strip of material including a first end, a second
7 end and a width, the cutting member including a serpentine configuration, the
8 cutting member positioned about the first set of returns and the second set of
9 returns the cutting member extending across an aperture formed through the cutting
10 head, the first end and the second end of the cutting member secured to the cutting
11 head] connected to the cutting head, the cutting member formed of a strip of
12 material including a first end, a second end, a length and a width, a first end of the
13 cutting member secured to the cutting head, the length of the cutting member
14 positioned about the first set of returns and the second set of returns in a serpentine
15 configuration, a leg of the cutting member extending across an aperture formed
16 through the cutting head and the second end of the cutting member secured to the
17 cutting head; and
18 a cutting member tensioning device [including a screw adjustably attaching
19 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for adjusting a distance between
20 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the cutting

21 member] disposed between and adjustably engaging the first head member and
22 second head member for adjusting a distance between the first set of returns and
23 the second set of returns and tensioning the cutting member.

1 2. (Twice Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 1 wherein the
2 cutting member tensioning device further comprises [a screw adjustably attaching
3 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for adjusting a distance between
4 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the cutting
5 member along a plane substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the screw] one
6 or more cutting member tensioning screws disposed between and threadedly
7 engaging the first head member and second head member for adjusting a distance
8 between the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the
9 cutting member.

1 4. (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 1 wherein the first set
2 of returns and the second set of returns each further comprise a bearing face lying
3 in a plane substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the [plurality of] leg of
4 the cutting member extending across an aperture formed through the cutting head
5 [segments for imparting a substantially equally tensile force across the width of the
6 cutting member].

1 6. (Amended) The cutting assembly of Claim 1 wherein the cutting
2 member tensioning device further comprises a screw including a longitudinal axis,
3 the longitudinal axis of the screw oriented along a plane substantially parallel to a
4 longitudinal axis of the [plurality of] leg of the cutting member extending across an
5 aperture formed through the cutting head [segments], [and] the screw adjustably
6 attaching the first set of returns and the second set of returns for adjusting a
7 distance between the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning
8 the cutting member along a plane substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the
9 screw.

1 7. (Twice Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 1 wherein the
2 cutting member tensioning device further comprises a pair of screws, each of the
3 pair of screws including a longitudinal axis, the longitudinal axis of each of the pair of
4 screws oriented along a plane substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the
5 [plurality of] leg [segments] of the cutting member extending across an aperture
6 formed through the cutting head, and each of the pair of screws adjustably attaching
7 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for adjusting a distance between
8 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the cutting
9 member along a plane substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of each of the
10 pair of screws.

1 8. (Third Amendment) A cutting head assembly comprising:
2 a cutting head including a first head member[, a second head member
3 connected to the first head member, a first set of returns connected to the first head
4 member adjustably opposing a second set of returns connected to the second head
5 member] including a first set of returns, the first head member opposingly and
6 adjustably connected to a second head member including a second set of returns;
7
8 a [cutting member formed of a strip of material including a first end, a second
9 end, a longitudinal axis and a width, the cutting member including a serpentine
10 configuration, the cutting member positioned about the first set of returns and the
11 second set of returns, a leg of the cutting member extending across an aperture
12 formed through the cutting head, the first end and the second end of the cutting
13 member secured to the cutting head; and] tensioned blade formed of a strip of
14 material including a first end, a second end, a length, a longitudinal axis and a width,
15 the tensioned blade positioned about the first set of returns and the second set of
16 returns in a serpentine configuration, a leg of the tensioned blade extending across
17 an aperture formed through the cutting head, the first end of the tensioned blade

18 secured to the cutting head by a first end securing member and the second end of
19 the tensioned blade secured to the cutting head at a second end securing member;
20 the first set of returns each including a face that is oriented substantially
21 perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the tensioned blade for exerting a
22 substantially equal tensile force across a full width of the tensioned blade,
23 substantially reducing stress risers in the tensioned blade;
24 the second set of returns each including a face that is oriented substantially
25 perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the tensioned blade for exerting a tensile
26 force across a full width of the tensioned blade, substantially reducing stress risers
27 in the tensioned blade; and
28 a [cutting member tensioning device including a pair of screws, each of the
29 pair of screws including a longitudinal axis oriented along a plane substantially
30 parallel to a longitudinal axis of the leg of the tensionable cutting member extending
31 across the aperture and each of the pair of screws adjustably attaching the first
32 head member and the second head member for adjusting a distance between the
33 first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the cutting member
34 along a plane substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of each of the pair of
35 screws] tensioning device including one or more screws disposed between and
36 adjustably engaging the first head member and second head member, each of the
37 one or more screws including a longitudinal axis oriented along a plane substantially
38 parallel to a longitudinal axis of the a leg of the tensioned blade extending across
39 the aperture, for adjusting a distance between the first set of returns and the second
40 set of returns and tensioning the tensioned blade along a plane substantially parallel
41 to the longitudinal axis of each of the one or more screws.

1 9. (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 8 wherein the first set
2 of returns and the second set of returns each comprise a height substantially equal
3 to [a] the width of [cutting member] the tensioned blade for transferring a
4 substantially equal force across the width of the [cutting member] the tensioned
5 blade.

1 10. (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 8 wherein the first set
2 of returns and the second set of returns each further comprise a bearing face lying
3 in a plane substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the [plurality of] leg
4 [segments] of the tensioned blade extending across an aperture formed through the
5 cutting head for imparting a substantially equally tensive force across the width of
6 the cutting member.